



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY OFFICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5995
February 18, 1988



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

FOI/Privacy Office

Mr. Ernie Lazar
495 Ellis Street, #1753
San Francisco, CA 94102-1996

JBS - Welch
Report

Dear Mr. Lazar:

This is in response to your February 28, 1984 letter, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) requesting records concerning the John Birch Society, under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, Title 5 US Code 552. The FBI, on February 1, 1988, forwarded your letter with a copy of one Army-originated record, retrieved from their files, for a decision as to the releasability of the information to you. This correspondence was received in this office on February 3, 1988.

We have reviewed the information in the Army record and have determined it no longer warrants classification and is partially releasable to you. A copy is enclosed for your use. Professional review and duplication fees of \$14.00 are waived. Information has been deleted from this record to protect the privacy rights of individuals. Its release to you would result in an unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individuals concerned. This information is exempt from the public disclosure provisions of the Freedom of Information Act pursuant to Title 5 US Code 552 (b)(6) and Title 5 US Code 552 (b)(7)(C). To assist you in identifying the deleted portions, corresponding notations have been inserted.

In addition, since the release of other information in this record would reveal the identity of confidential sources, it is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Title 5 US Code 552 (b)(7)(D) of the Freedom of Information Act, and has been deleted. Corresponding notations have been inserted.

The withholding of the information described above is a partial denial of your request. This denial is made on behalf of the Commanding General, US Army Intelligence and Security Command, who is the Initial Denial Authority for Army intelligence investigative and security records under the Freedom of Information Act. You may appeal this decision to the Secretary of the Army. If you wish to file an appeal, you should forward it so that it reaches this office for necessary processing no later than 45 days from the date of this letter (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays). The mailing address is:

2

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

3. The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

4. The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.

5. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom.



HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ACSI-SIB

12 MAY 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] BUSC 582 (b)(7)(D)

REC-92

1. Reference recent conversation between Mr. Putnam, your Bureau, and Major Nix, this office.
2. Attached are Agent Reports, dated 16 December 1959, reflecting results of interview of SUBJECT concerning Robert Welch, Incorporated, and the John Birch Society; Agent Report, dated 16 December 1959, reflecting the results of a citizenship check, and Agent Report, dated 22 December 1959, covering local agency checks.
3. No further action is contemplated by this office.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INTELLIGENCE

3 Incl
as

THOMAS D. FOX
Lt Col, Al(Inf)

For CLAUDE D. BARTON
Colonel, GS
Chief, Security Division

*1. Enclosure and
enclosure table
for filing purposes.*

REC-92

62-104401-1253

MAY 18 1961

ENCLOSURE

55 JUN 5 1961

55 MAY 22 1961

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

01

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

16 December 1959

2. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

603738

On 2 December 1959,

[REDACTED] was interviewed,
at Headquarters, Region III, 108th CIC Group, Boston Army
Base, Boston, concerning information of interest to
the United States Government. Source stated substantially as follows:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Mr. Robert Welch, who
maintains offices at 305 Concord Avenue, Belmont, Massachusetts, under the
name of ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED. Welch is the
editor of American Opinion, a monthly publication which is delivered, gratis,
monthly, to the Consulate.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the John Birch
Society. [REDACTED] that all
Americans are still naive at heart and, therefore, "anti-Communist."
[REDACTED] that the John Birch Society was founded in 1953, but had been
relatively inactive until January 1959, when he started to devote more time
to it. [REDACTED] the Society, which is
located in the basement at 305 Concord Avenue, Belmont.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
The Society did not become really active until January 1959,
when Welch held a meeting at a country club, name unknown, in Belmont.
Approximately 200 persons were invited to this meeting, all of whom were
approved by Welch prior to the actual invitation. Welch was the sole speaker
for this occasion. His speech lasted for eight hours and was Welch's evaluation
of the Communist threat to the United States, and the need for an organiza-
tion to awaken and protect the United States from this menace.

[REDACTED]
This meeting was a bid for membership into the John Birch
Society, and those present were given membership blanks to complete and
submit, if interested. The membership gained from this meeting is unknown

(Continued)

1. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. CLIFFORD, 108th CIC Group

2. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DA 341

Incl

AGENT REPORT

(FAR 400 120 100)

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 18, Massachusetts

2. DATE SUBMITTED

16 December 1959

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

603738

4. REPORT OF FACTS

to Source. All files concerning membership, finances, correspondence, and research material pertaining to the Society is maintained in the Society office at 385 Concord Avenue, Belmont. Employees of the office, as of 20 September 1959, were:

SUSC552 (b) (6) & (b) (7)(C)

Dr. Nathaniel E. Adanson, [REDACTED] second only to Welch in authority. He is extremely intelligent and a persuasive speaker. Adanson is presently employed by the New England Mutual Insurance Company, Boston, as Assistant Medical Director. He is also in charge of the Belmont Chapter of the Society. Adanson holds a commission in the U. S. Navy and attends reserve meetings regularly.

Mrs. Ann Adanson, wife of Dr. Nathaniel E. Adanson, employed as a part-time clerical assistant.

Ronald Smith, address unknown, who packs publications for delivery and carries mail to the Post Office. He is not a member of the Society and receives a salary of \$75 per week.

David Bean (phonetic) residing at an unknown address in Boston, 22 years of age, and a graduate of an unknown Jesuit college in the vicinity of Boston, where he majored in Economics. He has many acquaintances in Catholic religious circles in Boston and vicinity and is active in Society work among these groups. He receives \$75 per week salary.

Harold (lma) address unknown, who returned from Germany just prior to his employment in September 1959. He alleges to have been employed by an investment firm in Garwisch, Germany. He is being groomed for a responsible position within the Society. He was a member of the U. S. Army Air Force during World War II, but his present military activity, if any, is unknown.

SUSC552 (b) (6) & (b) (7)(C)

Carol Rudnik, [REDACTED] a local high school girl, who types correspondence for the Society. She obtained her position through her father, who became acquainted with Welch when Welch delivered a lecture at an unknown Protestant church in Belmont.

SUSC552 (b) (6) & (b) (7)(C)

Gladys Simmons, [REDACTED] chief secretary, who handles finances, to include payrolls and probably knows more concerning the Society than any person other than Welch.

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D)

(Continued)

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES F. CLIFFORD, 108th CIC Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~
~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

DA FORM 341 APR 57

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 18, Massachusetts

16 December 1959

603738

REPORT OF SOURCE

Willis Carter, address unknown, who occupied the position now held by Dr. Adamson, until his release, by Welch, in August 1959, for reasons unknown to Source. Carter was connected with an organization called the Liberty Lobby, and Source recalls reading material written by him and published in the name of the Liberty Lobby, San Francisco, California, which was extremely vitriolic in its criticism of President Eisenhower for his alleged pro-Negro and pro-Semitic.

The John Birch Society was named in honor of John Birch, an American Baptist missionary, who was killed, according to Welch, by the Chinese Communists, on 25 August 1945. A book, entitled, "The Life of John Birch", written by Welch, was published in 1954 by the Henry Regnery Company.

The ultimate aim of the Society is to become a third political party in the United States and, eventually, rule of the country. This is to be accomplished by uniting all anti-Communist organizations and individuals under the leadership of the John Birch Society. Source could not cite specifics as concerns the program of evolution into a political force.

[REDACTED] the Society is presently organized into approximately 35 separate chapters, with a total membership of 1200 persons. [REDACTED] of the existence of chapters in Belmont and Boston, [REDACTED] from chapters in Chicago, Illinois; New York City, and various cities in California and Florida.

Each chapter is required to have a weekly meeting, which is held in the home of the chapter leader. In Belmont, the meeting is on Thursday, in the home of Dr. Adamson. Discussion is supposed to center around the Weekly Bulletin, which is written and edited by Welch, personally, and mailed to each chapter. A taped reproduction of the speech made by Welch, at the organization meeting in January 1959, is on hand in each chapter. This tape, six hours in length, is used whenever the chapter receives a request for a speaker. Normal procedure is to divide the speech into three sessions of two hours each. The taped speech is used because Welch does not desire individual Society members to make speeches; they only make introductory remarks and answer questions after the tape has been heard. Society members are to be alert to opportunities to present the taped lecturer, through normal social, church, and business contacts. Welch stresses contact with Catholic organizations because, although a Protestant himself, he feels that the Catholic church is more militant in its stand against Communism. The decision to present the taped speech is made only by the chapter leader, who personally makes the presentation. A party of interested persons is usually held at the home of one of the contacts and, after a brief discussion, the taped speech is presented. David Bean, of the Boston chapter, is particularly active in

(Continued)

1. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. CLIFFERT, 108th CIC Group

2. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~
~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

DA 341

REPLACES GPO FORM NO. 1, APR. 1954 EDITION

NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

DATE SUBMITTED

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

16 December 1959

CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

603738

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

organizing these meetings. Response to the initial two-hour session determines whether meetings will be held to present the two remaining two-hour sessions. No notes or other method of reproduction are permitted at these meetings. Source is unaware of any presentations being made to members of the military, either individually or in groups; however, in August or September 1959, Welch spoke at the Harvard Club, New York City, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Subject made at least one previous speaking appearance at the Harvard Club in New York City, details unknown.

Persons who show interest in taking active participation in anti-Communist activity, after attending a taped session, are given the opportunity to join the Society. [REDACTED]

A new member is given a membership card and signs a request for membership. Members pay \$2 per month dues; however, those who can afford to, pay more. Each chapter leader is required to submit a monthly report to Society Headquarters, covering meetings, membership, and activities. These reports are all maintained by Dr. Adanson, who acts as coordinator, and reports all pertinent information to Welch.

Welch has prepared a so-called "Blue Book" which is an outline of his taped speech, but which is much more moderate in its approach, to the extent of the Communist penetration of the United States Government, since it is intended for sale to the general public. As of September 1959, this book had not been printed.

At the time of the visit to the United States by Soviet Premier Khrushchev, instructions as to how Society members should act, specifics unknown, were sent out by Welch, together with black arm bands, which were to be worn by Society members for the duration of Khrushchev's visit.

[REDACTED] as to the possibility of shooting Khrushchev, but doesn't believe that the conversants were actually serious in their intent.

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D)

It is planned that a moving picture of Welch, presenting his speech, will be made and utilized in lieu of the taped version. Welch has stated that \$20,000 has been pledged for this purpose. Future plans also call for the establishment of reading rooms containing anti-Communist literature to be open to the general public. All chapters have been required to submit names of potential recipients of written material from the Society.

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D)

Other than activities outlined above, [REDACTED]

(Continued)

1. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

2. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. CLIFTON, 108th CIC Group

[REDACTED]

DA FORM 341

AGENT REPORT
(SA 100 320 10)

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF REPORT

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

2. DATE SUBMITTED

16 December 1959

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE # (SEE)

603738

4. REPORT OF PROGRESS

[REDACTED]

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D)

Aside from Welch, other employees of the Corporation were:

Miss Ellen Lovett, residing in Cambridge, Massachusetts, who is Welch's secretary and has been with him for 20 years, formerly as his secretary at the James O. Welch Candy Company, Cambridge.

Mrs. (fau) Welch, wife of Robert Welch, who does clerical work afternoons.

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D)

SUSC 552 (b) (7) (D) Rosemarie Corso, [REDACTED] a local high school girl who types correspondence for the Corporation. Corso gained employment, [REDACTED] by answering a newspaper advertisement for clerical help which was placed by Welch.

Other persons known to be associated with ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED are:

Robert Kregeloh, a former news commentator on a radio station located in the Springfield-Holyoke area of Massachusetts. Kregeloh receives a salary, believed to be approximately \$20,000 per year, from Welch, in addition to Welch sponsoring Kregeloh's news program. These news commentaries were dictated by written instructions from Welch. The fact that Welch was his sponsor was not aired by Kregeloh. Kregeloh also writes articles for Welch's publication American Opinion.

William B. Schlamm, formerly employed by Time and Life magazines is on Welch's payroll as a regular contributor of material for American Opinion. Schlamm, a former Communist, fled Czechoslovakia when the German army occupied that country. Schlamm spends much of his time in Europe and his articles which appear in American Opinion are entitled, "European Survey".

An unknown retired U. S. Army general, who acts as a lobby at Congress, representing Welch's views. This general resides in Washington and is on Welch's payroll.

Welch also contributed towards defraying expenses incurred by nationally-known radio commentator Fulton Lewis, Jr. (Continued)

5. NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

ROBERT E. HITCHCOCK, North CIO Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

100-341

AGENT REPORT

JAR 300 320 100

NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

2. DATE SUBMITTED

16 December 1959

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

603738

4. REPORT OF PROGRESS

The monthly magazine American Opinion, published by ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED, prints eight thousand copies monthly, approximately half of which are paid for by subscription. The remainder are mailed to persons who may be interested. A small number are distributed by David Bean to various drug stores and other stores where magazines are sold for general sale to the public. Issues are mailed to prospective customers whose names are obtained through the John Birch Society, other Welch sympathizers, and exchange of mailing lists with other anti-Communist publications, details unknown. In addition to articles written by Kregeloh and Schlamm, Welch receives material from J. B. Matthews, a former member of the staff of the late U. S. Senator Joseph McCarthy, Albert C. Wedemeyer, General, USA (retired) and frequently receives material from the office of U. S. Senator Barry Goldwater. Source believes that Matthews is on Welch's pay-off.

Welch edits all material appearing in the magazine and writes many articles himself. In addition to the magazine, Welch published many pamphlets which are distributed free and sold through advertisements in American Opinion. Source can recall two: "Report of American Bar Association" and "Why People Become Communists".

[REDACTED] a magazine published by a Jesuit publishing house, from which Welch copies his pamphlet. The Welch pamphlet does not indicate its source.

[REDACTED] These files are also divided into geographical breakdowns to include most of the countries of the world and many organizations in this country and throughout the world.

[REDACTED] Typical selections under this section of Communists are: U. S. Senator John Kennedy, General of the Armies George C. Marshall, deceased, former President Harry S. Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt, as well as the United States Supreme Court and the American Bar Association.

The material for these files is selected, by Welch, from newspapers and material received from various sources, to include subscriptions to innumerable newspapers, both domestic and foreign. A large segment of the files is devoted to anti-Communist organizations and personalities such as: J. Edgar Hoover, Herbert Hoover, Herbert Philbrick and Conrad Adenauer. Welch uses the files for research material when preparing a speech or writing an article.

(Continued)

5. TITLE, NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. CLIFFORD, 105th CID Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

AGENT REPORT

(SA 300 130 10)

NAME OF SUBJECT: ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 74, Massachusetts

DATE SUBMITTED: 16 December 1959
A CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER: 603728

REPORT NUMBER:

Money for ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED, is obtained from contributions soliciting funds from acquaintances throughout the nation, by telephone, to assist him to combat the coming visit of Khrushchev to the United States. He had received pledges of \$100,000. This money was spent by the Committee Against Summit Entanglements, which is not operated entirely by Welch, is certainly much influenced by him. Much of this money was spent in full-page newspaper advertisements agitating against the visit of Khrushchev and urging the public to contact their congressmen. Welch received money from his brother, name unknown, who operates the James O. Welch Candy Company, 810 Main Street, Cambridge.

Welch left the business just prior to January 1959, because of his brother's insistence that he not get the candy business involved in his anti-Communist activities. At the same time, Welch was told, by his brother, to establish a bank account separate from that maintained in the name of the candy company.

1. IDENTIFY THE ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. WATSON, 1st National Group

2. SIGNATURE OF

ALAN WILLIAMS, 1st National Group

DA 1 APR 57 341

RECEIVED BY AGENT FROM SA J. D. BROWN MAY 16 1960

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF INDIVIDUAL OR FIRM OR SOCIETY

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Salem 78, Massachusetts

2. DATE

16 December 1959

3. NUMBER OF PAGES IN FILE NUMBER

603738

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(CITIZENSHIP) On 16 December 1959, the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 100 Somerset Street, Boston, Massachusetts, were examined concerning
vealed the following information:

Name

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

5. TYPE OF NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOHN F. CORBETT, JR., 100th CIC Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

DA 341

Incl 3

AGENT REPORT

(Rev. 2-22-50)

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

ROBERT WELCH, INCORPORATED
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

2. DATE SUBMITTED

22 December 1959

3. OFFICIAL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

603738

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(LOCAL AGENCIES) The files of the following agencies were checked concerning

18 December 1959	Massachusetts Board of Probation, Boston, Massachusetts	No Record
18 December 1959	Bureau of Identification, Boston, Massachusetts	No Record

AGENT'S NOTES: The Massachusetts Board of Probation is a central repository for all records of arrest which result in conviction in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Records of arrests for drunkenness and some minor traffic violations which do not result in conviction are recorded for court reference. Massachusetts law forbids the disclosure of arrest or conviction records for offenses committed prior to an individual's seventeenth birthday.

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

JOHN F. CORBETT, JR., 108th CIC Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

(UN OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

DA 341 3

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1959 O-550000